

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 1999-003-E- ORDER NO. 2000-018
JANUARY 5, 2000

IN RE: Annual Review of Base Rates for Fuel Costs of Duke Power.) ORDER APPROVING
) MODIFICATION TO
) FUEL CLAUSE
) ADJUSTMENT TARIFF

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Duke Power (Duke) for a change in the Adjustments for Fuel Costs Tariff. S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-865 was amended in 1996 to allow the inclusion of SO2 emission allowances in an electric utility's fuel clause. Duke now proposes a change in its tariff to include the SO2 emission allowances.

We would note that this change to the tariff does not constitute a rate increase or require a determination of the entire rate structure of the Company or the Company's overall rate of return. Under S.C. Ann. Section 58-27-870 (f) (Supp. 1998), the Commission may allow a tariff to be put into effect without notice and hearing under such circumstances. In addition, the tariff change, according to Duke, will provide orderly rate administration in compliance with the current law.

The proposed tariff change is granted. Duke shall file ten (10) copies of the revised tariff with this Commission within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. Clearly, S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-865 allows the change to include SO2 emission allowances in the fuel tariff. We hold that no notice or hearing is required under the


JANUARY 5, 2000

PAGE 2

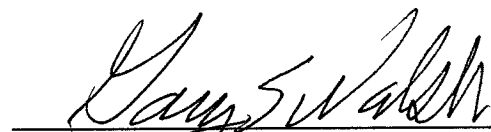
provisions of S.C. Ann. Section 58-27-870(f) (Supp. 1998) to put the change in the tariff provision into effect.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)